

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAKAR 02649 110851Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 IO-13 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /100 W
-----079429 112015Z /72

R 101720Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3629
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 2649

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, FR, CD, SG
SUBJECT: SENGHOR WORRIED ABOUT FRENCH PERFORMANCE IN CHAD

1. FRENCH AMBASSADOR WIBAUX INFORMED ME THAT HE HAS BEEN CALLED IN BY SENGHOR TO RECEIVE LECTURE ON FEEBLE FRENCH SUPPORT FOR MALLOUM GOVERNMENT IN CHAD. SENGHOR CLAIMS THAT FRENCH HAVE LET MALLOUM DOWN, AND HAVE CONCURRED IN VIRTUAL FINLANDIZATION OF CHAD BY LIBYA. WIBAUX ARGUED THAT FRENCH ARE DOING THE BEST THEY CAN IN VERY DIFFICULT SITUATION. HE TOLD SENGHOR THAT CHAD DID NOT HELP MATTERS BY EXPELLING FRENCH FROM THEIR MILITARY BASE SEVERAL YEARS AGO.

2. COMMENT: SENGHOR'S REMARKS TO FRENCH AMBASSADOR ARE INTERESTING SUPPLEMENT TO WHAT HE HAS BEEN TELLING
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ME FOR SEVERAL MONTHS AND MOST RECENTLY AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG ON APRIL 7. WHILE SENGHOR HAS BEEN BERATING THE USG FOR WHAT HE FEELS IS OUR FAILURE TO COUNTER SOVIET SPONSORED AGGRESSION IN ANGOLA, SHABA AND THE WESTERN SAHARA, WE FELT THAT HE COULD AT LEAST FEEL SAFE UNDER THE FRENCH SECURITY UMBRELLA WHICH REMAINED UPRIGHT IN SHABA AND THE WESTERN SAHARA. BUT

HE NOW PERCEIVES SLIPPAGE IN THE FRENCH POSITION IN
CHAD WHICH MAY EXPLAIN THE INCREASING STRIDENCY OF HIS
CALLS TO THE USG FOR A MORE AGGRESSIVE RESPONSE TO
REGIONAL CHALLENGES IN AFRICA.
COHEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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